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Control No. 456020
EIC-M-46

ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in
Room 2125, Temporary "M" Building
26th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.

22 September 1955

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Dr. Otto E. Guthe, CIA, Chairman
[REDACTED] CIA, Vice Chairman
Colonel William C. Baird, Air Force
Mr. Gustave Burmeister, Agriculture
Mr. Frank Charrette, ICA
Mr. Bennett Davis, Navy
Mr. Edward Doherty, State
Mr. Kingsley Hamilton, Air Force
Commander R. R. Hirshfeld, JIG
Mr. Duncan Holmes, Army
Dr. Norris Kenny, OSD
Colonel E. M. Postlethwait, Army
Mr. Emil E. Schnellbacher, Commerce
25X1A9a Commander Burns Spore, Navy
[REDACTED] EIC/S
25X1A9a [REDACTED] EIC/S, Principal Staff Economist
[REDACTED], EIC, Executive Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of the EIC meeting of 23 June 1955 (EIC-M-44) and of the EIC special meeting of 8 July 1955 (EIC-M-45) were approved.

APPROVAL OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT OF THE EIC TO THE IAC

2. A (revised) draft of the Fourth Annual Progress Report of the Economic Intelligence Committee to the IAC was submitted to the EIC for discussion and suggestions. Several further changes in the draft were proposed and new wordings were agreed for each.

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3. Action: The EIC approved the report with the changes agreed, and directed the Chairman to forward the amended report to the IAC.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE EIC TO THE EIC-RI-S4 EXERCISE

4. Discussion: The Air Force representative suggested that the EIC take note of the effective contribution which the Executive Secretary had made to the RI-S4 report, for which the EIC had been commended by the Director of Central Intelligence. A number of the participants [REDACTED] members of the conference) had expressed their appreciation of the Executive Secretary's objectivity and effectiveness as the U.S. chairman of the conference.

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5. Action: The Chairman directed that the appreciation of the EIC should be recorded in the minutes and reported that, as Chairman, he had already forwarded a letter of commendation to [REDACTED]

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CONSIDERATION OF SUBCOMMITTEE PROBLEMS

6. Discussion: The Chairman reminded the members of the summary of comments of Air Force representatives on the various EIC subcommittees, which had been distributed at the EIC meeting in June. Similar comments by ORR/CIA representatives on the subcommittees had been summarized and circulated with the agenda for the present meeting. Comments of some of the other IAC and non-IAC members were then distributed to those present.

7. Since the subcommittee annual reports and various summaries of comments by subcommittee representatives had not been distributed in time for full consideration by all members prior to the meeting, the Chairman suggested that the present discussion be considered preliminary, and that situations indicating a need for specific corrective actions should be considered more fully at a subsequent meeting.

8. The Chairman then led a brief discussion of the present status and effectiveness of each subcommittee. Special mention was made of the generally satisfactory functioning of the subcommittees on Requirements, Transportation, Petroleum, Industrial Machinery and Equipment, Population and Manpower, and Agriculture. Both Transportation and Agriculture are currently considering proposals for major inter-agency research projects in the months immediately ahead. A number of reasons were suggested as to why the activities of some of the other subcommittees have been somewhat less satisfactory. The Navy representative pointed out that the effectiveness of a subcommittee was not measured by the number of meetings held. Some of the most satisfactory subcommittees (e.g., Agriculture and Population) met only occasionally,

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"on call" -- to consider specific proposals arising out of well-defined interagency responsibilities and relationships. On the other hand the State Department representative remarked that several other subcommittees (e.g., Trade and Finance and General Economic Analysis) had much greater potentials than had been realized, and should be encouraged to greater activity. In one or two cases substantial revisions of a subcommittee's terms of reference or membership may be indicated.

9. Action: The subcommittee annual reports were noted (other than the report of the General Economic Analysis Subcommittee, which had not yet been received). More definitive proposals, incorporating various members' suggestions for improving the functioning of individual subcommittees, should be brought before an early meeting.

REPORT ON RESEARCH PROJECTS ON SELECTED PERIPHERAL NON-BLOC AREAS
(EIC-S-20)

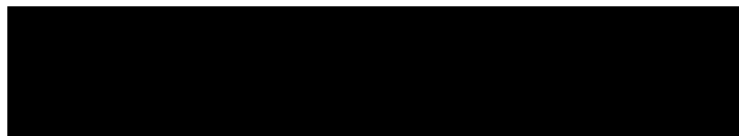
10. Discussion: Several representatives indicated they were finding this report of value. The State Department representative, however, had a number of reservations about the report in its present form, which he would like to discuss when time would permit fuller consideration.

11. Action: Carried over until the next EIC meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

12. The Secretariat distributed lists of the new representatives recently designated to the EIC and its various subcommittees and working groups.

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Executive Secretary
Economic Intelligence Committee

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